

## Waste Action Alert

A publication of the RSC Sunset Caucus from co-chairs Kevin Brady (R-TX) and Jason Chaffetz (R-UT)  
Rep. Tom Price (R-GA), RSC Chairman

# Eliminate Proliferation of “Czars” in Obama Administration

November 18, 2009

**Program or Item Targeted:** Proliferation of “czars” in the Obama Administration.

**Annual Cost of Program or Item:** Because the Obama Administration has refused to reveal the salaries of many of its czars, cost is unknown.

**Background on Program or Item to Be Sunseted:** At last count, more than 30 individuals have been appointed by President Obama to serve as “czars” in his Administration. A few of the many czars appointed by the President include: Auto Recovery Czar, Car Czar, Border Czar, Climate Czar, Green Jobs Czar, Health Czar, Pay Czar, and Stimulus Accountability Czar. There’s even a “Guantanamo Closure” Czar. While their titles vary by position, many of these czars wield unprecedented powers usually reserved for cabinet-level appointees—yet they seem to have been appointed without regard to the constitutional checks and balances required by the Senate confirmation process.

**Why This Program or Item Is Wasteful:** The appointment of czars without Senate oversight raises significant constitutional concerns and goes against our core values of transparency and accountability in government.

**Legislative Steps Taken So Far:** Rep. Steve Scalise (R-LA-1) has introduced HR 3569, the Sunset All Czars (SAC) Act. The bill requires all of the President’s czars to be removed from their appointed, non-confirmed offices by the end of 2009. It also requires Senate confirmation of any future bureaucrat wielding czar-like powers and restricts appropriations to fund these positions and their offices.

**Support for the Legislative Steps Taken:** Introduced on September 15, 2009, the SAC Act currently has 50 cosponsors. So far, Speaker Pelosi and the Democrat Majority have not considered this bill in committee or on the House floor.

**MEMBER ACTION ITEM:** To co-sponsor the SAC Act, contact Stephen Bell (5-3015) with Rep. Scalise.

If you would like to participate in eliminating wasteful programs with the RSC Sunset Caucus, please e-mail [brad.watson@mail.house.gov](mailto:brad.watson@mail.house.gov).

If you have a bill or amendment to highlight in the next Waste Action Alert please contact [ryan.tronovitch@mail.house.gov](mailto:ryan.tronovitch@mail.house.gov).

Note: Not every item featured in the Waste Action Alerts is necessarily endorsed by the RSC. These Alerts highlight the individual initiatives of members of the RSC Sunset Caucus.

*“The RSC Sunset Caucus uncovers government waste and seeks to eliminate it, working to sunset programs that taxpayers shouldn’t be paying for.”*